GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1719
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006
BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND FRANCE
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation from India recently visited France;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the discussions held and agreement signed by both the countries;

(c) the extent to which trade between both the countries is likely to be increased;

(d) whether both the countries have also agreed to strengthen cooperation in the area of intellectual property right;

(e) whether France has also agreed to open its liaison office in India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) A delegation led by Minister of Commerce and Industry visited France during May 30 − June 1, 2006 for the 14th Session of the Indo-French Joint Committee. In the 14th Session of the Indo-French Joint Committee, held in Paris on 31 May 2006, the two sides discussed ways and means of promoting bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation in various sectors.

The Minister of State (Industrial Policy and Promotion) visited France during July 11-12, 2006 and 15 July 2006. A Memorandum of Understanding between India and France on cooperation in the areas of intellectual property rights was signed on 15 July 2006.

(c) The two countries have targeted to double bilateral trade within five years.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f) The Ministry for Foreign Trade of the Republic of France has decided to enhance its presence in India through reinforcement of its economic and trade offices network under the umbrella of the French Embassy throughout India by 2006.